

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04424 050325Z

ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 PM-05 NSC-05 SS-15

HA-05 /078 W

-----022901 050430Z /14

R 041210Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7021

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

CONFIDENTIAL ISLAMABAD 4424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: BHUTTO'S DENTIST ARRESTED

1. DR. ZAFAR NIAZI, FORMER PM BHUTTO'S PERSONAL DENTIST AND THE GUARDIAN OF MOST OF ISLAMABAD'S DIPLOMATIC TEETH, WAS ARRESTED MAY 1 WHILE WORKING IN HIS OFFICE IN ISLAMABAD. THE NIAZI HOUSE HAD BEEN UNDER POLICE SURVEILLANCE FOR SOME TIME.

2. ENGLISH PRESS REPORTS LINK NIAZI'S ARREST WITH OFFICIAL DISPLEASURE WITH THE COMPLAINTS HE ALLEGEDLY LODGED WITH JAIL AUTHORITIES OVER BHUTTO'S PRISON CONDITIONS. (OBVIOUSLY OUT TO MAKE BHUTTO'S PRISON CONDITIONS AN ISSUE, NIAZI WROTE A LETTER DETAILING THE ALLEGED INSUFFICIENCIES FOR TRANSMITTAL BY US TO GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER WHEN ROCKEFELLER WAS IN PAKISTAN. THE LETTER WAS PASSED, BUT THE GOVERNOR MADE NO REPLY.) IN A DIFFERENT TWIST TO THE STORY, THE URDU DAILY JANG REPORTS THAT NIAZI WAS PICKED UP AFTER HIS NAME WAS LINKED WITH SEVERAL PAKISTAN PEOPLES PARTY (PPP) WORKERS ARRESTED IN RAWALPINDI LAST WEEK FOR TRANSPORTING EXPLOSIVES.

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3. COMMENT: NIAZI IS WELL KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY, AND DID A THRIVING BUSINESS AS THE ONLY REALLY GOOD, WESTERN-TRAINED AND EQUIPPED DENTIST IN TOWN. HE WAS A SELF-ACKNOWLEDGED BHUTTO SUPPORTER WHO SEEMED TO REVEL IN THE REFLECTED GLORY OF HIS STAR PATIENT. HE ENJOYED PASSING THE WORD THAT HE WAS A CLOSE POLITICAL CONFIDANT

OF THE FORMER PM, AND THERE WERE ALSO PERSISTENT RUMORS  
THAT NIAZI WAS A CONDUIT FOR PRO-BHUTTO ELEMENTS, ALLEGEDLY  
USING THE TO-ING AND FRO-ING OF HIS DENTAL PRACTICE AND  
HIS DENTAL CARE OF THE JAILED FORMER PRIME MINISTER TO  
SHUTTLE MESSAGES BACK AND FORTH.

HUMMEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DENTISTS, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 may 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ISLAMA04424  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780191-0786  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2795738  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BHUTTO'S DENTIST ARRESTED  
**TAGS:** PINT, PK, (NIAZI, ZAFAR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014